



ELTHAM & ENVIRONS WALKING GROUP

WALKS – EASY - Semester 1, 2023 – by date

Note - The separate Walking Protocols document must be read in conjunction with this information

TIP: To find a walk quickly on your computer, press Control F and type in the walk number

COVID Guidelines If you, as an EEWG member or a visitor, within 4 days of participating in one of our EEWG walks or events, feel unwell & receive a positive COVID test result, it is requested that you contact the Member Secretary on eewgsec@gmail.com who will notify any members who were on the same walk. Please contact your health provider and take good care of yourself. We also recommend you stay at home if you are showing any symptoms of COVID-19 or if you have had contact with someone suspected to be infected with COVID-19.

Please also refer to the following website for current Covid-19 Rules & Regulations in Victoria: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>. Follow Covid Protocols including *Cough into your elbow, maintain hand hygiene, do not share personal items on a walk.*

Car Pooling: **Note - Car Pooling sites are noted on our Walking Schedule**

To car pool, go to the carpooling location nominated on the schedule at the nominated time. For newer members, carpooling has been utilised by members over many years. In the unlikely event that no-one else shows up for car-pooling, (or if an agreement cannot be made regarding the wearing of face masks) you may need to drive yourself. T = Eltham Little Theatre, C = Civic Drive Sports Complex, P = Eltham Lwr Park

Note, where we formerly said that parking was at the Eltham Library, we now meet further on at the Eltham Central Park, under the trestle bridge, on the left.

Google Maps - Underlined words will open a map page on your browser. **Note** - Google Maps links sometimes have a red or other marker which is not necessarily the exact location.

THE WALKS

1. We have three principal documents:

- Walking Protocols, which apply to all EEWG walks, reading & complying with them is part of your signed EEWG joining agreement.
- Semester Walking Schedule. You will be notified by email if any adjustment needs to be made to this document after its acceptance at a Special General Meeting. The Walking Schedule is used in conjunction with the latest version of this document.
- Walks – Complete list with directions.
- All documents are available on [EEWG website](#) under “Walks” You will be emailed a Schedule, Complete list of walks, Walks - Moderate, by date & Walks – Easy, by date. The details can be saved to your desktop, other device or accessed via our website.

2. **Days of extreme weather :**

- **TOTAL FIRE BAN DAYS** - All walks marked on the Schedule with a *

Meet at the scheduled carpooling location, or Eltham Central Park if there is no carpooling location, to decide whether to do a different EEWG walk.

- **Forecast temperature of 35 degrees C or higher.**
- **Wet, windy and/or very cold day**

Meet at the scheduled carpooling location, or start location, to decide whether to cancel or do a different EEWG walk.

3. **Walk numbers** - each EEWG walk has a unique number. A walk is designated as M = moderate, E = easy, ML = long moderate, EL = Long easy or EXT = extended (usually further away).
4. **Surface - Number Codes:**
 1. Smooth: mostly sealed, bitumen or concrete or can be flat, grassy paths.
 2. Formed, wide path or road. Well maintained gravel or open grassy areas.
 3. Formed path, maybe narrow, some loose gravel which may be rough
 4. Short sections rough, eroded or corrugated. May need to climb over a gate or fence.
 5. Several extended rough sections. Stony, may be slippery after rain. Brief sections without track. May need to climb over a gate or fence.
5. **Steepness - Number Codes:**
 1. Flat for most of the walk.
 2. A mix of flat land and gently undulating ground.
 3. A combination of flat ground and undulating/moderate slopes.
 4. Several sections with moderate and steep slopes.
 5. At least one section with very steep slope, the rest a combination of gradients 1 to 4 above.
6. **Time of Walks** – Easy & Moderate walks begin at 0930 - carpooling at 0900. From December 1 to March 30, Moderate walks begin half an hour earlier – members will be emailed prior to any change & dates are shown in the *Schedule & Walks by date* documents. Combined Walks start at the same time as the Moderate group during this time.
7. **EXPL (Exploratory)** = New walks that are in the trial phase. Members who participate, discuss the walk & decide if it is suitable or not, and the appropriate Moderate or Easy Walks Facilitator is then advised. Members can suggest a review of any walk's grading by contacting the convenor of the Walks Planning Group (e.g., to suggest that an M walk should really be an E, or vice versa).
8. **EXT (Extended) walks** = Longer or further afield than regular walks. If doing one of these walks, meet as per the emailed instructions from the person organising the walk.
9. **Combined walks** Usually 12 are scheduled each semester, spread over two walking days (W, F). This gives members a chance to catch up with those who may normally only walk M or E walks.
10. **Private property** - A % symbol indicates all or some of the walk is on private property.
11. **Animals** Dogs or other animals cannot accompany us on any walks.
12. **Emergency:** iPhones have an automatic emergency calling facility, which you can turn on: Settings-Emergency SOS-Auto Call. You can also download the **what3words** app. When opening, this app will show three words that define your current location: give these to the Emergency Services operator.
13. For Androids, download at <http://emergencyapp.triplezero.gov.au>
14. **Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs)** are carried on a Saturday or Trip Away Walk. The members carrying a PLB will change from time to time. The Moderate group has 2 members who carry a PLB when in attendance. A beacon is only to be used in an emergency when mobile phone coverage is unavailable.
15. **Comprehensive first aid kits** - Provided to two members who are regular walkers, the kits are kept in their car.
16. **Walk Details** Please advise the Secretary (cewgsec@gmail.com) if: Walk details are substantially wrong; Surface/steepness ratings are missing, or if you disagree significantly with them; coffee venue is missing and you can provide a suggested venue; Melway map reference or Google Maps link is missing or incorrect.

Wednesday, January 4 EXP
PICNIC AT MARANOA GARDENS
Combined walk

Friday, January 6 267 E Greensborough-Plenty River Circuit, Greensborough

6.8kms 1¾ hrs Mel 21 A4

Ian Burns, 2017

Surface = 1, steepness = 2, scenery***

Begins at [Willinda Park](#). Begins at Willinda Park. Follow the Plenty River Trail upstream (north), under Para Road rail and road bridges. Walk up a slight hill to Bicton St, turn right and walk to its end. Re-join the trail on the left. Follow the trail for a fair distance, past Greensborough station, until you reach the Diamond Creek Rd bridge. Continue under this, cross the Plenty, keeping to the left-hand path. This will take you to Whatmough Park – tennis courts on your right, swing bridge on left. Cross the swing bridge, take the right-hand path, and walk around oval (Plenty River on your right) to Kalparrin Ave.

Cross the river here, either via the ford or the bridge. You will see some sporting buildings on your right: take the right-hand path, skirting the buildings. Walk around the soccer oval and up the escarpment. This will take you back to the tennis courts and swing bridge. Continue along the path, courts on your left. Re-cross the Plenty under the Diamond Creek Rd bridge and return to the cars.

Coffee at [Mabel Jones, Greensborough](#)

Wednesday, January 11 197 E Yarra Bend Park, Dight's Falls & Capital City Trail, Fairfield

6.1kms 1¾hrs Mel 2D F8 and 44 H4

Updated July 2020

Surface = 1, steepness = 2, scenery***

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Commences at the car park adjacent to the [north side of Kaners Bridge](#)

(reached by turning left into Yarra Bend Blvd, off Heidelberg Rd). Allow 40-45 minutes to reach Yarra Bend Park from Eltham. Walk past the toilets on the right, following the track along the river for about 750m. Walk past the viewing platform and up to re-join Yarra Bend Blvd.

Almost immediately turn left, and follow the path around the river for about 1 km. Cross Merri Creek, using a small bridge, then turn left on a side track to view Dights Falls (only a few metres away). After viewing the falls, retrace your steps for a few metres and turn left onto the Main Yarra Trail to follow the Yarra River for a further 850m.

Walk under Johnston St Bridge. Almost immediately, the path divides into two. Take the left (lower) fork. The path will take you past the Collingwood Children's Farm (most of the farm is on the left) and the Abbotsford Convent Arts Precinct, which is on the right. On reaching Collins Bridge, ascend the steep steps. Cross the bridge.

Continue straight ahead; you will pass 2 asphalt paths on your right. The second of these is the continuation of the main Yarra Trail. The path you follow rises gently, and emerges onto a main road (Yarra Boulevard, though not sign-posted here). Cross this road with care, and seek out the earthen

path on the other side. This will take you into a golf course. Follow the path along the edge of Yarra Bend Park and Golf Course for about 1km. When the path drops down to road level, re-join Yarra Boulevard. Look for a large road sign that leads to the City, and walk under the Studley Park Rd overpass. Cross the road, and pick up a narrow bush path on the left that leads down to the river and a car park. A left turn will bring you to the Studley Park

Boathouse. To return to the cars, walk back to Kanes Bridge.

Coffee at [Boathouse](#)

Friday, January 13 176 E Lower Eltham Park, via Lavender Park Drive, Eltham

8.3kms 2hrs Mel 21 J5

Surface = 1, steepness = 2

Meet at [Eltham Central Park](#), under the trestle bridge and park on the left hand side of the oval.

Walk to Main Rd, and turn right. At the lights (cnr Main Rd and Bridge St) cross twice to be diagonally opposite Alistair Knox Park. Walk to John St, and turn left. At the first street encountered, which is Bible St, turn right. Walk to the end, and turn right into Dalton St. Almost immediately, turn left into Metery Rd. Continue along Metery Rd, crossing Mt Pleasant Rd, and then passing the historic Eltham Cemetery on the left. At the next corner, turn right into Lavender Park Dve.

Walk to Leonard Cres, which is the second street on the right, and turn right. Walk to the end. Cross a small grassy area as you turn left. Turn sharp right at the next corner into Antoinette Bvd. Just before arriving at Main Rd, turn left onto the walking path. Cross the pedestrian bridge across Diamond Creek, and continue on the path with Eltham Lower Park on your left. A few metres after the main gates, turn left into the Park. Continue on the path as it moves in and out of the park. At the end of the path, you will be on Homestead Rd. Continue in the same direction, then turn right at the first road.

Just before the footbridge across the Yarra, take the left path. Do not cross the river. Follow the path which turns left almost immediately. When the path veers left, turn right for a look across the river from the observation deck. Return to the path, and pass the Pony Club buildings. Look for a signed earth path on the right. Take this loop until it rejoins the main path just before the miniature railway maintenance buildings.

Pass the station, then cross the rail line at the crossing on the right. Follow the path, then exit, turning right. Just before the footbridge, turn left under the road bridge, and enter Barak Reserve. Follow the path, staying within the Reserve, and crossing a footbridge after the path turns right. Continue along the path, then walk in the same direction along Bell St. Near the end of Bell St, turn right onto a path alongside Diamond Creek (the path is on the right). Pass Eltham Leisure Centre on the left. Cross Brougham St, then a footbridge. Continue along the path with the creek on the right. After walking under the bridge (Bridge St), turn right, and cross Diamond Creek. Turn left along the walking track. Just before arriving at the trestle railway bridge, turn right across the grass to arrive at the parked cars.

Coffee at [Tea Pot Café](#), Shillinglaw

Wednesday, January 18 277 E Harry Pottage Reserve-Gresswell Forest Reserve, Macleod

7.2 kms 2 hrs Mel 20 A7

Chris Butler, September 2018, Updated April 2022

Surface = 2, Steepness = 2

Starts near the corner of [Wungan St and Glenmore St, Macleod](#)

Park beside the Harry Pottage Reserve. There may be some cars parked by commuters using the nearby Macleod Railway Station. If so, continue further along Glenmore St, where there should be adequate parking beyond the reserve. Start the walk in the reserve by taking the path that is opposite house number 37 in Glenmore St. Follow the path through the reserve to Wungan St opposite the Macleod Recreation and Fitness Centre, a distance of 350 metres.

Where the reserve path ends another one starts immediately to the right and enters the Cherry St Grasslands. Follow the path for about 70 metres, until reaching an intersection of 3 paths. Take the right hand path past the “Protected vegetation” sign and continue, passing the “Ghost train and leaf skeleton” information board. Walk for 700 metres.

The grasslands path ends at a T intersection meeting a bitumen path that runs behind houses in the Springthorpe Estate. Turn right at this point and walk a short distance until reaching the “Cherry St Grassland Reserve” sign. Turn left and walk 70 metres to a road – Springthorpe Bvd. Turn left and walk 400 metres to the Village Common.

Follow a path that runs along the left side of the common to reach Ernest Jones Dr, observing the former Mont Park Asylum in the distance (now owned and occupied by La Trobe University). Turn right along Ernest Jones Dr and walk 250 metres to reach a road named Hideaway Turn. Walk to the end of the Turn, where there is a gate into the La Trobe Wildlife Sanctuary. Ignore this gate and head right along a short path to reach a water feature known as the Cascade. Follow the path on either side of the Cascade for 250 metres, leading upwards to the Ernest Jones Reserve and a good spot for a break to admire the Cascade. Notice a former administration block of Mont Park Asylum in the distance, now converted to apartments.

Continue along the same axis as the Cascade water feature which has now disappeared. Cross a road and pass through an avenue of townhouses (called Cascade Walk). Upon reaching a wide road with a roundabout turn left. This is Main Drive. Walk 400 metres to an entrance to Gresswell Habitat Link. Enter the Link and follow a boardwalk which eventually becomes a gravel path. Pass a club house and paths to the golf course of the Strathallan Golf Club. If you take a wrong turn it will soon be obvious. Retrace your steps back to the main path. At a point about 300 metres from entering the Link reserve another boardwalk is reached on the right of the path. There is a sign at this point welcoming walkers to the habitat link. Follow the boardwalk, which shortly becomes a gravel track, for 300 metres, bearing slightly uphill until reaching a point where the path takes a sharp left turn and becomes a vehicle track. Follow this for 350 metres, ignoring two paths to the right and one to the left, and look for the second track off to the right. Take this track for a short distance to a gate which enters Gresswell Forest Reserve.

Enter Gresswell Forest and follow Dianella Track to the left, which hugs the boundary fence line for 650 metres. At this point, Centre Track is reached, with the Greenwood Dr picnic ground outside the reserve on the left (toilets). Turn right and walk along Centre Track, taking care not to divert onto any other tracks. Follow this to the south, passing Billabong Track on the left and Antechinus Track on the right. Centre Track now becomes Salt Creek Track.

Follow this, passing an amazing eucalypt on the right, to a gate directly ahead that leads out of the reserve.

Leave the reserve and cross Vincent St to Dunvegan Parkland. There is no formed path through the park, but an exit is visible in the distance, running between the back fences of adjacent houses. Walk to this exit and continue along this narrow linear reserve. The trail at this point is above Salt Creek which has been diverted into pipes below the ground. Follow it for 350 metres, crossing two roads, to reach Glenmore St to return to the cars.

Coffee at one of the cafes in [Aberdeen Rd, Macleod Village](#) shops, near Macleod station.

Friday, January 20 206 E Graham Rd-Pretty Hill Trail, Kangaroo Ground

6.4kms 1¾hrs Mel 271 B10

Tony Stutterd. Alternative added April 2016

Surface = 2, steepness = 2

Combined Walk

Those walkers wishing to avoid the uphill, gravel section of the walk, park on the verge of Wattle Glen Road (MEL 271 D9), approximately 20 minutes after the starting time and join the main group as they exit the Graham Road Trail at this point. Continue with the main group to Lorrimer Road and return to your cars.

Commences at the Western end of [Graham Rd](#), adjacent to the former Eltham Tip. Proceed along the signed track around the boundary of the Wycliffe Centre, following the fence line on the left, then across the footbridge. Track continues uphill – at certain times of the year flanked by long grass. Turn left at Wattle Glen-Kangaroo Ground Rd, proceed 400m (with the possibility of long grass again), then turn left into Hillview Ct. At the end, a horse trail becomes Pretty Hill Lane, and ends at Lorimer Rd.

If there is time, and the chance to extend the walk, turn left at Lorimer Rd, and continue to the transmission lines or beyond to the junction of Lorimer, Reynolds and Orme Rds. An alternative extension is to turn right at the Lorimer Rd-horse trail corner, and continue towards Kangaroo Ground-Wattle Glen Rd. How far you go along this section of Lorimer Rd will be dependent on time available. To return to the cars, follow the same route via the horse trail and Graham Rd Trail

Coffee at [Kangaroo Ground](#)

Saturday, January 21 Saturday Walk

Wednesday, January 25

248 E Ruffey Lake Park walk, Doncaster

6kms 1½ hrs Mel 33 F10

Rewritten May 2016

Surface = 1, steepness = 2

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Commences from car park 100m in from [The Boulevard](#)

Head in an easterly direction for 1.5 km towards Victoria St. To do this, follow the southern rim of the park, going initially up past a toilet block on the right, then down. Along the route, McCallum Rd and houses are on the right, and a small bridge will be seen at the bottom of a hill on the left. Turn left on the track near Victoria St, proceed to the toilet block, then follow the path up the hill and then left (along Cricklewood Dr). Cross Church Rd, then follow a path veering right, then left to King St (at bridge). Cross this bridge, turn left at the path that is adjacent to The Boulevard. Before returning to the cars, turn left to walk around Ruffey Lake.

Friday, January 27 210 E Janefield section of Plenty River, Bundoora

7kms 2hrs Mel 10 F10

Tony Stutterd. Updated September 2020

Surface = 3, steepness = 2

Commences at the grassy parking area near the corner of Eastgate Dve and Collendina Crescent, off Collendina Cres, and about 50m from the Eastgate Dve corner. Drive into [Collendina Reserve](#), and park on the left. The section immediately behind the houses has a small notice indicating parking is not allowed in the section on the right.

From the cars, walk into the Plenty Gorge Park through a gate, and follow Pipeline Track (with houses on your left) until you reach a concrete path. Continue straight ahead on the wide earth road. A very fine stand of eucalypts will be on your right. The road descends gently, then more steeply. On the way down, you will see paths off to the left and right. At a point when the old Pipe Bridge across the Plenty is clearly in view, look for a path off to the left. Turn left here onto what is RAAF Track; it will lead you through thickets of burgan (*Kunzia*). When a wide, rough road enters from the left, continue straight ahead.

Continue to follow RAAF Track; it widens out as it meanders both up and down hill. Ignore any turnings or trails off on either side, and keep on this track for several hundred metres until it climbs up a short, steep slope to a grassy area. Continue on this path until you come across the remains of an old fire hearth on your right. After another fifty metres or so, you will reach Cobb & Co Track. You can either use this point as a refreshment stop, or turn right onto Cobb & Co Track, which is an old stony road, steeply down until you reach the Plenty River. Along the way, look to the right for excellent views of the river and gorge. At any point, retrace your steps back to RAAF Track.

Follow Cobb & Co Track. This will either mean turning left, if you haven't walked towards the river, or continuing straight ahead, if you decided to walk towards the river. Walk until you reach a wide concrete path. This is the path seen near the beginning of the walk. Turn right onto the path, and

follow this past a housing estate and associated landscaping for as far as you wish. You can cut off a few bends along the way, if you wish. The path eventually leads through to the old Janefield site, and University Hill housing estate.

At some point along the way, about turn, and follow the concrete path back to where it began – the fine stand of eucalypts on the Pipeline Track. Turn right along the grassy path, with the housing still on your right, and return to the parked cars.

Coffee at [Caffeind](#) (Apollo Parkways)

Wednesday, February 1 284 E Mullum Mullum Creek Trail, Ringwood

7.5 kms 2 hrs Mel Ref 50 C3

Ian Burns, Wilma Waters, June 2019, amended June 2020

Surface 1, steepness 1, scenery ***

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Combined Walk

From Eltham, to reach the start of the walk, take the Warrandyte/Ringwood Road towards Ringwood. At the Oban Road roundabout, turn left. Continue straight ahead at the Wonga 147 Road roundabout then after passing through the next roundabout look for Marilyn Cres, which is the 3rd on the left. Turn left here, then first right and first right again into Ailsa Court. Park in Ailsa Court, off Highland Blvd.

Walk begins at [Peter Vergers Reserve](#)

Reserve, adjacent to the Ringwood Club.

Walk north-westerly across a large paddock to a small bridge across the creek. Turn left. Continue on, crossing Oban Road and walking to Mullum Mullum Reserve, about 2 kms.

At a T junction, turn left and cross the creek, then right, now walking south-westerly.

Pass under (?) Oliver St, and go to the Ringwood Bypass.

Retrace your steps from here.

For a longer walk, on the return journey continue beyond the small bridge at the Peter Vergers Reserve.

Coffee at [Leaf & Vine Café](#), 34 Panfield Avenue, Ringwood

Friday, February 3 240 E Phipps Crescent, Diamond Creek

5kms 1¼ hrs Mel 12 C7

Surface = 1, steepness = 2

Commences about 100m up [Phipps Cres](#), after turning right off Main Hurstbridge Rd. turn left down Chapman Street and walk to the end of this street to find a laneway on the left which leads down across Ann and Ward Streets to Jessamber Court and then on to Bishop Avenue. Cross Bishop Avenue diagonally and go through the little playground. Now turn right in Parkway where it is uphill for a very short distance. Look for the Parkway entrance on your left and once on the path it is downhill towards the main Hurstbridge Road. Turn right and follow the grass track close to the fence line along the main road - continue following Main Road (using the many grassy areas where possible) until you

reach the entrance to Ellis Cottage. Walk to and around Ellis Cottage and when ready, return to the cars by simply retracing much of your path back to the Phipps Crescent roundabout. Turn left into Phipps Crescent and the parked cars (some moderate hills; 60-75 minutes).

Coffee [Nillumbik Cellars](#)

Wednesday, February 8 204 E Plenty River and old bridge circuit, Viewbank

7.7kms 2hrs Mel 32 F2

Jill Nichols

Surface = 1, steepness = 3

Commences at [Banyule Flats Reserve car park](#), which is on the right, off Somerset Dve. Leave the carpark through one of two gates just beyond where cars are parked. If you use the east gate (adjacent to cars), walk straight ahead to join the main Yarra Trail at a T junction, then turn left at the next sealed footpath. If you use the gate that is adjacent to the Yarra Trail, turn left after going through the gate, and follow the Yarra Trail to the second sealed footpath coming in on the left. Turn left here. You are now on the Plenty River Trail. Follow this up a moderate incline until it levels out. Walk a short distance to Banyule Rd. Cross the road and follow an unmade path immediately ahead. Walk through open ground, gradually trending downhill. Cross a large pedestrian bridge over the Plenty River, and continue on a sealed path almost to Lower Plenty Rd (you will know you are there from the sound of traffic ahead, and new building developments on the right)). Turn left here, cross the historic bridge and continue along Old Lower Plenty Rd. Turn left into Lower Plenty Rd, go a short distance, then turn left into Bannockburn Rd. Go to the end of this road, turn right down a slope with steps and cross a footbridge. You now have two options:

Option 1: turn left onto a grassy area (no path) and walk across open grassy terrain to link up with a gravel path. Turn right onto this, and walk back to Banyule Rd, and then straight ahead on the path used on the forward journey. Turn right off the Plenty Trail and back onto the Yarra Trail. Almost immediately, you are back to the cars.

Option 2: if the grass is long, walk into Fairbank Way and follow the road around until a left turn takes you back onto Martins Lane. Follow this back to the Plenty River Trail and return to the Yarra Trail. Turn right, and almost immediately you are back to the cars.

Coffee at [Four Leaves Café](#) (Greville Rd)

Friday, February 10 285 E Westerfolds-Bonds Road Circuit, Templestowe Lower

5kms 1½ hours Mel 33 E3

Ian Burns 2019, updated February 2021.

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery ***

Park in [Porter Street](#). Enter Westerfolds Park through a narrow gateway. Follow the narrow earth track to a T junction. Turn right, crossing a small bridge, and walk uphill to another T junction – ignore the broad path going uphill to the right, taking a narrow track to the left. This path eventually heads steeply down to the main Yarra Trail.

Turn left, crossing the bridge over the Yarra Yarra, continuing on the Main Yarra Trail (the river on the left), to Bonds Road (about a kilometre), ignoring another (more impressive) bridge that leads to Wombat Bend. Return the same way.

Coffee at [Carlucci's](#) or [Vibrante](#).

Wednesday, February 15 154 E Mullum Mullum Creek Linear Trail: Tindals Rd and Beyond

6½ kms 1¾ hrs Mel 34 J9/10

Updated February 2019

Surface 1, steepness 2

Carpooling at [ELT](#)

Commences at the car park on the [north-west side of Tindals Rd](#), and adjacent to the roundabout, (Raymond Elliot Ct intersection), and the Mullum Mullum Trail.

Walk down Tindals Rd for 200m in the direction of Springvale Rd to Baradine Tce. Cross Tindals Rd, and look for the path that leads to the continuation of the Mullum Mullum Creek Trail. The trail is on the Western side of the creek, so the creek will be on your left. This 2km section of the trail, completed in 2015, traverses farming country, with many fine eucalyptus trees, lightly-timbered forest, and pasture land. It is flat in all but the final section, where it rises over a distance of 150m to join Park Rd. (Mel 49 A1).

To the right of the intersection of Conos Ct and Park Rd is a marked crossing place where you can cross Park Rd. Caution is needed, as visibility is restricted in both directions. Turn left, and walk down the path adjacent to Park Rd. Just beyond where the road makes a 90 degree turn, cross the bridge over the creek, and look for a barrier gate on your right leading into an open area. The 1.3km section between Park Rd and Head St, known as the 'Whitefriars Stretch' is the 'missing link' in a trail that on completion sometime between April and June 2017 will join with the path above the Melba /Eastlink tunnel. Several footbridges and broadwalks are being constructed and installed in early 2017 on the West side of the creek.

At this point, about turn, and turn left over the bridge, and follow Park Rd round the bend and up the moderate gradient to a point opposite Conos Ct. Cross the road to Conos Ct, and pick up the trail used for the forward journey, to return to the cars.

Coffee 13 Rows, [Aumanns](#) Produce [150 Harris-Gully Road, Warrandyte](#)

Friday, February 17 175 E Gresswell Forest Reserve, Macleod

5.5 km 1½hrs Mel 20 B3

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery***

Combined Walk

Commences from [the carpark](#) adjacent to the toilets and access gate in Greenwood Dve (about 200 m West of Gresswell Park Drive). If the car-park is full, it is permitted to park in Greenwood Dve, despite the bike lanes.

Follow Centre Track from the entry gate and proceed to Billabong Track.

There are now two choices:

Option 1: Turn right at the Billabong Track sign post. Walk through to a T junction and houses in front of you. Turn right and walk to Gate 11. Exit the Reserve via the gate. Follow Strathallan Track across the boardwalk, past two tracks leading to the Golf Club. Traverse another boardwalk, and note the information shelter on the left. You are now at the gate that leads into Main Drive. Turn right here, and follow the road. Walk along the fenceline of the LaTrobe Wildlife Reserve. The entrance to the LaTrobe Reserve is just before the second roundabout, and is adjacent to the Keelbundoora Nursery. Walk through this Reserve, as time permits.

After exploring the Reserve, retrace your steps to Gate 11. Note that it is very easy to find yourself walking into the Golf Club grounds, but the return to the track you need is very easy to locate.

Enter Gresswell Reserve through Gate 11, and either follow the fence to the left for the quickest way back to the cars, or take one of the tracks off to the left, after initially following the boundary fence for a short distance.

Option 2: Turn left, and take the path to the boundary fence; this is known as 'Gaza Strip'. Follow this fenceline, with houses on your left. At the next two corners of the Reserve, turn right until Gate 11 is reached (this will take about 30 minutes in all). At this stage, you will have followed 3 of the 4 perimeter fences. Exit the Reserve here. Follow Strathallan Track across the boardwalk, past two tracks leading to the Golf Club. Traverse another boardwalk, and note the Information shelter on the left. You are now at the gate that leads into Main Drive. Turn right here, and follow the road.

Walk to the end of the lake, which is on your right. Turn right, and walk part-way around the lake to a small pavilion.

Retrace your steps to Gate 11. Note that it is very easy to find yourself walking into the Golf Club grounds, but the return to the track you need is very easy to locate. Enter Gresswell Reserve through Gate 11, and either follow the fence to the left for the quickest way back to the cars, or take one of the tracks off to the left, after initially following the boundary fence for a short distance.

Coffee at [Syrup](#), Morwell Ave, Watsonia (near RSL)

Saturday, February 18 **Saturday Walk**

Wednesday, February 22 **229* E Happy Valley Track, Christmas Hills**

5 kms 1¼ hrs Mel 265 A11

Bert Fine, Helen Watson. Re-written November 2019

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery ****

Carpooling at [ELT](#)

This walk begins in [Clintons Rd](#), just in from the corner of the Kangaroo Ground-Yarra Glen Rd. Car park is on the left. Walk across the road, passing an impressive gate on the left, onto a bush path.

Continue along the path with the creek on your left, crossing the creek on a broken concrete causeway.

You will come to Happy Valley Track, where you turn left.

Walk as far as you like, then return the same way to the cars.

Coffee at [Dark Horse](#) (Watsons Creek, not Mondays, not milkshakes) or [Kangaroo Ground](#) GS.

Friday, February 24 300 E Lower Plenty Bridges, Yallambie

6kms 1³/₄ hrs Mel 20 K8

April 2021. Ian Burns

Surface = 2, steepness = 1, scenery****

Park at Yallambie Park, near the Yallambie tennis courts (access via Yallambie Rd and Binawee Ave), left into [Moola Close, then first right](#)

Cross onto the Plenty River Trail and turn right, passing a soccer ground and the tennis courts on the right, to the Lower Plenty Road bridge (Bridge 1).

Walk under this and then up onto the Old Lower Plenty Road historic bridge #2. Turn left and cross the bridge. Turn right just after crossing the bridge, back onto the PRT.

Continue southwards, passing the Heidelberg Golf Club on your left, to bridge #3.

Retrace your steps back to Yallambie Park.

Continue upstream, crossing bridge #4. Almost immediately turn right and head back down the creek to a wide-open space (Glenaurburn Park). Return to the previous spot and look for a track straight ahead. This parallels the main trail. Walk north, past houses on the right, and return to the Plenty River Trail. Turn right here and cross bridge #5.

Turn right immediately onto a formed track, which takes you back to the PRT. Turn right and cross on bridge #6, for a view to the left of the local escarpment.

Return to Yallambie Park and the cars.

Wednesday, March 1 101 E Carome Homestead Circuit, Mernda

7kms 2hrs Mel 183 K1

Tony Stutterd, developed Aug 2014, updated March 2022

Surface = 2, steepness 1, scenery***

Carpooling at [Diamond Valley Sports Centre](#)

Combined Walk

Commences from [Carome Homestead](#) in Mernda ([Two Beans and a Farm](#) restaurant), and located in Mernda

Drive north along Plenty Rd, past Gordons Rd (a right turn here would take you into Hawkstowe Park). Continue a further 1.6km, passing Lakes Bvd on the left, to Hawkstowe Pde on the right. Turn right here. Drive under the railway line along Hawkstowe Pde for about 700m, making a left turn into Barmah Dr. At third roundabout turn right into Muswellbrook Gv. Drive to end of this road. Cross Hathfelde Bvd, go through the gate and drive to the car park in carpark on left. If carpark is not open park in Hathfelde Bvd.

Walk north along the road past the rear of the homestead, then along a grassy track that has old fences on either side. At the end of this, the track has a crushed stone surface, and you will see a housing estate and wetlands on your left. Veer right, following the path, and continue in a North-Easterly direction, with the Plenty River close by on the right. Notice along the way, an old bluestone bridge which once carried a pipeline, as well as an old bluestone quarry. A large footbridge, which also carries a new water-pipe, is reached, and at this point you are close to Bridge Inn Rd.

There are now two alternatives:

Option 1: Retrace your steps to the homestead and car-park. Walk south past a sign which has information about the remains of an 1850s flour mill, then along a grassy path until a gully (Kilkallo Gully Reserve) is reached. Turn right here along the northern side of this gully, cross a small bridge, and use the concrete path to walk to Ripponlea Pde or the next bridge, which is on Riverdale Blvd. Cross either of these bridges and walk back to the cars, using the path on the north side of Kilkallo Gully Reserve.

Option 2: Cross the footbridge with the water-pipe, and turn right. Follow a grassy path, with the Plenty R now on your right. After a short distance, veer slightly left to go through a low bluestone 'wall'. The path now continues with a low mound on the left, which is the original pipe-track from Yan Yean Reservoir. The path narrows to a single-lane –and sometimes muddy – earth path. Skirt around a housing estate, and continue to a recessed area where the path forms a T junction with an informal path. This is probably an appropriate place to pause for a drink, and a retracing of steps to the homestead. Coffee available at the homestead

Friday, March 3 125 E Murray Wetlands, via Edendale Farm, Eltham

8kms 2hrs Mel 21 J5

Modified August 2015

Surface = 1, steepness = 1

Starting at Commences from [Eltham Central Park](#) this walk is part of the Diamond Creek Trail. Go under the railway bridge, veering left around the oval. At the opposite side of the oval, exit left, following signs for DCT. Follow the path, keeping the tennis courts on your left, until an exit gate. Turn right, and follow the trail around Diamond Street. Cross Youth Rd, and continue on trail, keeping the railway car park on your right. Cross the vehicle and pedestrian railway crossing. Turn left, and follow footpath alongside Main Rd (lots of traffic) and adjacent to the railway line. At the first path, veer left, and follow the path to the pedestrian crossing. Cross the line, and turn right, the rail line now being on the right. Walk along Railway Parade. Just before reaching Wattletree Rd - a major road with plenty of traffic – cross Railway Pde and use the tunnel under the bridge to cross Wattletree Rd. Turn left onto Gastons Rd. The trail veers left just before Edendale Farm car park. The trail now skirts around the farm, and Diamond Creek is crossed at a point close to a rear gate into the farm. Follow the trail, passing on the left a children's play area and toilet block. A little further on, the trail

reaches a T junction. Turn right here, past sports grounds, and a community building. Use the bridge to cross the creek to the flat, swampy area (Murray Wetlands). Return at this point.

Option: Proceed past the wetlands, and after a slight rise turns left to be parallel to the railway line. At Allandale Rd (not sign-posted), cross the road alongside the railway gates, and turn left. Once more, Diamond Creek is crossed at the bridge. Turn right here. Shortly you will see a bench seat on the left. This is the turning point for the walk. Return via the same route. A shortcut can be taken just after you leave the railway line behind you and descend the slope. Find a dirt track on the left. This will take you into Murray Wetlands, and back to join the main trail. Another shortcut can be taken from Diamond Street: turn left into Youth Rd, and walk between the railway line and tennis courts until you reach the oval. Walk around the left edge back under the railway bridge to the cars.

Coffee at [Tea Pot Café](#)

Wednesday, March 8 **EXP**

Friday, March 10 **302 E Tunstall Rd-Tram Rd Circuit, Donvale**

8kms 2hrs Mel 48 D5

June 30 2021, Ian Burns

Surface = 1, steepness = 2, scenery**

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#).

Walk begins at the end of [Tunstall Road, Donvale](#), at the Koonung Creek Linear Park.

Walk westwards (to the right) for about a 800 metres, going under Blackburn Rd and into Boronia Grove Reserve (not signed). The creek will be on your left.

After about 400 metres take the left-hand branch of the path, crossing the creek. You will shortly see a path to the left, which crosses the freeway: ignore this, staying on a westerly trajectory.

You will soon see a small lake on the right. After about 700 metres from the end of this you will arrive at Koonung Creek Reserve. Keep these on your left until you come to Wetherby Rd: walk under this, into the Koonung Creek Linear Park.

Continue on the path for around 350 metres, ignoring paths to the right. Cross the creek and walk a further 100 metres to a junction: turn right (north). The other path leads to a bridge over the freeway. This can be the turn-around for a shorter walk.

Continue for a kilometre, with the creek to your left, to Tram Road Reserve, ignoring paths to the right. You can now retrace your steps, returning to the cars, or walk up onto Tram Road. Turn left, crossing the freeway and look for the return track on the left, just beyond the freeway exit road.

Follow the path eastwards to Middleborough Rd. Cross this and look for the continuation of the trail just beyond the freeway exit ramp.

Ignore a path to the left and continue to Surrey Rd. Walk up onto this and turn left, heading north.

Cross the road at the Caltex Woolworths to St Clems Rd. A short way in, turn south into parkland and re-join the Koonung Creek Trail, heading south towards the freeway and the creek.

Ignore the first track to the left; the second will be Tunstall Rd and the cars.

Coffee at [Evangeline's](#), Tunstall Square.

Wednesday, March 15 **298 E Diamond Creek** -Wattle Glen Reserve

7.8km 1½ hrs Mel 12 A6

Vera Snelders February 2021

Surface = 1, steepness = 1, scenery***

Walk starts at [Coventry Oval](#), off [Elizabeth St](#), Diamond Creek. Park on the left.

Leaving the cars, walk towards and past the club rooms and cricket nets to the Diamond Creek Trail.

Turn right and walk towards and under a road bridge.

Follow the trail to Wattle Glen, for the break (picnic table). Partly open, but with plenty of grassy verges.

Return the same way.

Coffee: Vines is within walking distance, or the Tram Café in the reserve on the other side of the Main Hurstbridge Rd.

Friday, March 17 **270 E Schwerkolt Cottage-Mullum Mullum Circuit, Mitcham**

8.3kms 2hrs Mel 49 D7

Ian Burns, 2018

Surface = 1, steepness = 1, scenery***

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Combined Walk

Begins at [Schwerkolt Cottage](#) carpark.. Walk downhill to the Eastlink Trail. Bear south-east to and through the Deep Creek Rd tunnel and take the left-hand fork.

Proceed for about 600 metres to Sherbrooke Ave, where the Mullum Mullum Creek Trail begins (northward). Walk for a little over a kilometre, through the Eastland Shopping Centre Reserve, then go under Warrandyte Rd for another 300 metres.

Turn left (northwards) at a T intersection, then continue north-easterly.

After about 800 metres you will come to a fork: go left.

Cross the creek and take the right-hand path. The creek is now on your right.

Walk on until you come to a bridge crossing the creek to the right (4km mark). This is the mid-point.

Cross the bridge and return.

Coffee at [Rubiki](#), North Ringwood

Saturday, March 18 **Saturday Walk**

Wednesday, March 22 **112* E One Hundred Acres Reserve, Park Orchards**

4.5kms 1¾hrs Mel 35 E9

Surface = 3, steepness = 2

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Park next to the netball courts at [Domeney Reserve](#) in Knees Rd; turn right after entering Domeney Reserve; parking is a further 100m on.

This walk is difficult to describe, if a particular route is to be selected. One possibility is to attempt to follow the plaques numbered 1 to 20. Even this is quite hard to do, as arrows are rather randomly placed, and although the plaque at the entrance alongside the netball courts has all the tracks named, less than a handful of tracks are marked in the Reserve itself.

On entering the Reserve, turn left. After 100m, a junction is reached. This is Long Leaved Box Track. Plaque no. 20 is just to the right.

Here are 3 alternatives:

Option 1: By veering left and walking 300m, you should come to Plaques 1 and 2. Proceed from here, looking for the next 18 numbers. Continue the walk, following any paths of interest.

Option 2: Turn right through the gate at Plaque 20, and try to find the plaques in reverse order.

Option 3: Proceed in either direction, following at whim any track encountered. There are 4 boundary white wires or fences to define the edges of the park. Eventually, follow a boundary to return to the cars

Note: Pamphlet '100% Special' (Manningham Council)

Coffee at 13 Rows, [Aumanns Produce](#) 150 Harris-Gully Road, Warrandyte

Friday, March 24 263 E Eight Reserves Circuit, St Helena

6.3kms 2hrs Mel 21D/E2

Ian Burns, July 2017, revised November 2018

Surface = 2, steepness 2, scenery**

Begin at the [Malcolm Blair Reserve](#) (1) Preschool carpark in Karingal Drive, opposite Pine Ave. Walk down the hill in a north-easterly direction, crossing the retarding basin, to Weidlich Rd. Turn left and walk up to the Progress Rd roundabout. Turn right into Progress Rd and walk 300 metres to a slow-point opposite Heacham Rd. Turn left onto a path through the (unnamed) reserve (2), back to Weidlich Rd. Turn right and walk past the Catholic primary school (on your right). About 100 metres beyond this is a narrow strip of land that gives access to Dalvida Reserve (before #116 Weidlich Rd). Turn into this and walk up hill to the dam, then turn left across the dam and walk to exit at Dalvida 137 Court. This leads into St Clems St. Turn left, returning to Weidlich Rd. Turn right and immediately enter St Clems Street Reserve (4). Walk through this in a north-easterly direction to Liddesdale Grove (about a 100 metres). Turn left, walking a short distance to Eskdale Ct on the left. Walk about fifty metres to the entrance to St Helena Bush Reserve, on your right (5) – this looks a bit like someone's drive, but with an official sign). Keep on straight, a fence on your right, until you come to some swings. Turn left here, walking downhill to Scone Ct, which takes you back to Weidlich Rd. Turn left and walk down to the next road on the right (Angus Ct). At the end of this is Macdhui Avenue Reserve (6). Walk up this in a north-westerly direction, crossing a street, until you come to a children's playground. Bend past this to the left, south-westerly. This will take you to Brae Ct, then back to Macdhui Ave. Turn right

and go to the T-junction (Dunbarton Dr). Turn right and walk about 75 metres to access the next park— Simonelli Reserve—on your left, opposite #30 Dumbarton Dr (7). Walk down through this reserve, then turn right (still in Simonelli Res) and walk uphill in a north-westerly direction to St Helena Rd. (Simonelli Res stretches from St Helena Rd to Glen Katherine Dr.)

Option 1: Return back down the hill initially in a south-easterly direction, crossing Glen Katherine Drive and Settlers Way, then southward to Weidlich Rd (near the Catholic primary school) and Oregon Xpress.

Option 2: Turn left and follow St Helena Rd to Karingal Dr and back to the car park.

Option 3: Turn left and walk about 100 metres to find a safe point to cross. Cross carefully and head left to Anthony Beale Reserve (about 100 metres, on the right)(8). Enter the reserve and walk up hill to St Katherine's Church. From here, proceed past the church south, exiting the reserve. Cross the access road and a fence, following the path adjacent to St Helena Rd back down to the traffic lights at the corner of Karingal Drive.

Turn left here and return to the cars.

Coffee at [Oregon Xpress](#) (Weidlich Rd)

Wednesday, March 29 234 E Yarra Flats to Burke Rd, Heidelberg

6kms 1½ hrs Mel 32 B6

Surface = 1, steepness = 1

This walk is somewhat exposed in nature.

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Commences at the car park in [Yarra Flats Entry Rd](#) off The Boulevard, Heidelberg. Enter near the corner of Banksia St. Take the main track through the park, which begins at the car park and information board. Ignore the first right turn and continue until you reach Burke Rd. (about 2.7 km). Then turn to face the way you have come. You will see a narrow track on your right. Follow this, staying on the paths closest to the river (except for 2 towards the end of this loop which are VERY steep). You will eventually come back onto the main track. Follow this for about 500 meters until on your right there is an entry through a fence. Follow this track in a loop. It brings you out only about 50 meters from where you went in through the fence. From there, follow the main track north until you get to a Heidelberg School picture entitled "Near Heidelberg, 1890", by Arthur Streeton. Take the track near here eastwards towards the river then walk along the track beside the river until the track turns north and you should come out, after about 1km, on the main track close to the car park. As these narrow tracks can get quite muddy it is best to take a pole on this walk in wet weather.

Friday, March 31 237 E Yarra River walk, Warrandyte

6½ kms 1½hrs Mel 23 C12

Revised October 2021.

Surface = 2, steepness = 2

Park and begin the walk from [Tarooma Reserve](#) in Everard Drive, Warrandyte. Walk up to Everard Drive, turning right up the hill. Take a short break at the top before returning to Tarooma Reserve. Walk through the reserve to the Yarra and follow the trail upstream to the bridge.

Return the same way.

Coffee at Warrandyte [Food for all seasons](#)

Wednesday, April 5 200 E Banyule Creek and Rivergum Track, Viewbank

6kms 2 hrs Mel 32 F2

Alice Ley

Surface = 1, steepness = 2, scenery**

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Combined Walk

PLANNING MEETING

Commences at [Banyule Flats Reserve carpark](#), off Somerset Drive. Go through to the Main Yarra Trail at the end of the carpark. Turn right, and follow the upper path (ie the Trail), with the Banyule Wetlands on the left, and the oval on the right. After approximately half a kilometre, the Banyule Creek comes through on your right, and passes under a small footbridge. Turn right just before this bridge, and take the track along the creek, keeping it on your left, until you meet Banyule Rd. Turn left, and proceed up Banyule Rd (ignoring the first Creekbed Reserve sign on the right) until you reach the pedestrian lights and a second Creekbed Reserve sign on the right. Take the path through the Reserve until you come to Lower Plenty Rd, then turn back to Banyule Rd. Cross at the pedestrian lights and enter onto the River Gum Track ahead. Go along the track, cross the road, then continue ahead on the path past the former Greening Australia offices on the left. When you reach an oval, proceed anticlockwise around its perimeter until you meet the Main Yarra Trail. Follow this to the left, eventually arriving back at the carpark at Somerset Drive.

An alternative route back to the carpark is as follows: After reaching the Main Yarra Trail, continue until you reach a building on the left. Branch off to the right, onto a track past an old farm shed. Continue on through several paddocks until you see a well-defined fence line on the left. Follow this fence until you reach the carpark at Somerset Drive. Shortly before the carpark there is a detour to the left through trees; this leads to a slightly elevated lookout, giving a good view over the Banyule Wetlands.

[Four Leaves Café](#), Greville Road, Rosanna

Friday, April 7 291E Everard Drive Tank Track Circuit, Warrandyte

6.1kms 2hrs Mel 23 C12

Vera Snelders, December 2018

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery ***

Carpooling at [Eltham Lower Park](#).

Park and begin the walk from [Tarooma Reserve](#) in Everard Drive, Warrandyte. Walk up to Everard Drive, turning right up the hill. Pass the entrance to Pound Bend Park on your left. 152 Continue

straight ahead along the small track to the right and alongside Pound Bend Road (or use the road itself), for about a kilometre, until you reach the T Junction with the Tank Track (signposted). Stop here for a drink break. Turn right to continue uphill on the Tank Track. Follow this undulating and uneven track as it loops back to finish across the road from the Park entrance. Walk back down Everard Drive to the parked cars in Tarooma Reserve.

Coffee at The White Owl, [Goldfields Shopping Centre](#).

Wednesday, April 12 208 E Blackburn Lake Sanctuary circuit, Blackburn

6.2kms 1³/₄ hrs Mel 47 H11/12

Surface = 1 steepness = 1, scenery****

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Commences at the [Blackburn Bowls Club](#) carpark, Pakenham Road, Blackburn. Suggested route from Eltham: From Williamsons Rd, turn left into King St, and then right into Victoria St – the latter eventually becomes Middleborough Rd. At its junction with Canterbury Rd, turn left; Pakenham Rd in the second on the left. The Bowls Club is on the right hand side, just before a narrow bridge. Allow 30 minutes.

From the northern side of the carpark look for Blackburn Creek Lands Reserve information sign, and take this track to the right. Continue until you reach Main Rd. Cross over and continue on the other side of the road through Reserve until track ends on Heath St near corner of Blackburn Rd, and walk to the right until you reach Jeffrey St. Turn into Jeffrey St, and walk the length of the street. Turn right, and walk along Lake Rd towards Sanctuary entrance opposite Haley St. If wished, you can turn right into Naughton St, and on the left hand side, look for an easement that runs between the houses and eventually exits back on Lake Rd near Haley St. Cross to other side of Lake Rd, and enter Sanctuary. For a Figure Eight circuit of the Sanctuary, start off on Lakeside Circuit, and then take first turning on the right – Wattle Walk – ignoring any left hand turns, and walk until you reach a T junction with Fire Break Trail at the eastern boundary of the Sanctuary. Turn left, and continue on this track past play area and local school. Keep on this track, and eventually cross bridge. Again, keep left, after crossing another bridge, turn left into Lakeside Circuit, which now hogs the west side of the lake. Follow this track alongside the lake with its many viewing areas until you reach Friends Bridge; here, bear right and up hill to the Visitor Centre. The latter has information and toilet facilities. From the Centre, walk across grass to the children's playground and look out for Melaleuca Walk, which is behind and just to the right of the play equipment. Follow Melaleuca Walk, and cross two small bridges. Walk until you reach Lakeside Circuit again, turn right, and follow Lakeside Circuit down to the Lake Rd entrance Haley St. Turn right, crossing Lake Rd, and walk until you reach Naughton, Jeffrey or Alandale Rds. Turn left, and walk until you reach Blackburn Rd. Turn right, walking to Furness St. Turn left and follow the track to the entrance to Creek Reserve. Turn right, and follow creek on your left back to the cars.

Coffee at [Gourmet Girl, Laburnum](#)

Friday, April 14 **245 E Butterfly Reserve walk, Eltham**

6.4kms 1¾hrs Mel 21 J5

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery***

Meet at Go under the trestle bridge and park on the left hand side of the oval.

Follow the road under the trestle bridge, and veer left to walk around Eltham Central Park and Andrew Park. Turn right into Diamond St. and follow this around and cross the railway line. At the traffic lights, cross Main Rd and turn left. After 100m, take the path on the right, just past the medical clinic. Turn left at Bible St / Grove St. Walk past the primary school, then cross the road to enter Woodridge Linear Park on the right. Follow the path for 600m, cross Hartland Way and walk a further 400m to a small shelter and information board close to Eucalyptus Rd. Turn right here, and walk up the hill through the Pauline Toner Butterfly Reserve. At the top of the hill, do an about turn and return the way you have come.

Coffee at [Teapot Café](#)

Saturday, April 15 **Saturday Walk**

Wednesday, April 19 196 E Yarra Bend: Kane's Bridge to Fairfield Park, Fairfield

7.5kms 2hrs Mel 2D F8, 44 H4

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery****

Carpool at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Commences from the carpark in [Yarra Bend Road at Kanes Bridge](#). From the cars, walk downhill along the path above the river opposite Studley Park Boathouse and continue on closer to the river around the Bend. The path narrows and eventually leads uphill to a lookout and beyond to join the path along Yarra Bend Rd. Turn left onto this path opposite the golf club, walking initially above the river and then close to the water. Walk along the river to the junction with Merri Creek. Cross the creek to view Dights Falls and the platform constructed in 2012 that allows fish to swim upstream. Retrace your steps and re-cross the small bridge over Merri Creek. Turn left and walk under the Eastern Freeway. Continue for 250 m along a sealed path to a small bridge on the left that crosses Merri Creek. There are two options available:

Option 1: Continue on the asphalt path and cross Yarra Bend Rd to follow the northern fence line of NMIT to Fairfield Park. Descend towards the river via the steps to the left of the Canoe Club and Amphitheatre. Turn right at the lowest level and follow the track along the river and under the pipe bridge. Stay close to the river, passing under the freeway, until the track leads uphill to the golf course. At the top of the short climb turn right and then left around the top of the golf course to once again meet Yarra Bend Rd which you can cross and turn left to return to the cars.

Option 2: Cross the bridge to the western side of Merri Creek. Turn right onto what is initially a rocky path, and then joins the sealed bike path. Follow these 2 paths for about 1.6km to the large bluestone vehicle bridge on Heidelberg Rd. Turn right to cross Merri Creek, and immediately turn right again to follow a sealed path on the eastern side on Merri Creek. After a short distance, this will take you up a

series of steps. Continue on this path to the small bridge used to cross the Merri about 45 minutes earlier. From the Heidelberg Rd bridge to this point is about 1.5km. Now retrace your steps to return to the cars. The last loop can be omitted by walking immediately to the golf house on Yarra Bend Rd. §In non-holiday periods, allow 50 minutes to reach Yarra Bend Park from Eltham.

Coffee at [Pantheon, 88 Station St, Fairfield](#)

Friday, April 21 219* E Hawkstowe Park, Morang Wetlands, South Morang

7.2kms 2hrs Mel 183 J7

Tony Stutterd

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery*****

Meet at [Diamond Valley Sports Centre](#)

Combined Walk

Commences at the car park at the the [Le Page Homestead](#) in the Hawkstowe Park. To access the park turn right off Plenty Road into Gordons Road, then first left and then right following the signs to Le Page Homestead.

From the car park follow path up the hill to the homestead. Pass between the homestead and the farm buildings and walk down the hill towards the path at the right-hand end of the water. Head up the grassy slope towards a gate on the opposite side. Go through the gate and turn left onto a gravel road. Follow this road to a T intersection and turn left (signs indicate Morang Wetlands) – continue along this road to a T intersection then turn left. When this road forks, take the right-hand fork, and continue to follow signs to Morang Wetlands. Turn left at a gateway into the wetlands area. Continue along the track veering left. At the next junction veer left following the sign to the Ridge Track. This follows the left-hand edge of the dam. Continue past the exit gate 5 sign. This section may involve 2 water crossings (planks) in order to continue. After a very slight ascent and descent there is a crossroad – go straight across, following the signs to the Ridge Track. This track will eventually loop around and the fence will be on your left as the path turns. Continue until a T intersection – turn left onto a gravel road. Continue on this road until just past the Morang Wetlands/Ridge Track signpost; there is an orange arrow indicating a right turn to lead back out of the Wetlands area. After passing through the gates, turn left and continue on the gravel road until a road appears on the left – turn left (sign indicates Nioka Bush Camp). Cross a chain road barrier then turn right. Walk a short way down, then turn right through a gate. Head down the grassy slope towards the water- turn right at the track and follow this track back to the car park.

Note : There are toilets at the Homestead

Wednesday, April 26 EXP

Friday, April 28 143*E Sugarloaf Reservoir North, Christmas Hills

6.6 kms 2hrs Mel 273 B2

Surface 2, steepness 1

Carpooling at ELT

Commences at the Ridge car park. After passing through the entrance gate on Simpson Rd, drive about 300m to the Ridge Picnic Ground notice, turn left, and park about 250m further on, near the toilet block on the left. Head down to the dam wall and walk across the spillway towards Saddle Dam car park/picnic ground – turn and return to the cars when ready. Coffee at Dark Horse (Watsons Creek, not Mondays, not milkshakes) or Kangaroo Ground GS

Wednesday, May 3 160 E Banksia and Warringal Parks, Heidelberg

8.3kms 1³/₄ hrs Mel 32 C4

Surface = 1, steepness = 1

This walk is somewhat exposed in nature.

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Combined Walk

Commences in [Warringal Park](#) next to the toilets. Park in the car-park adjacent to the toilet block on the east side of Beverley Rd. If this is your first time doing this walk, allow a bit of time to find the meeting spot, as the toilet block isn't easily seen from Beverley Rd.

Follow the Main Yarra Trail, which at this point is for a short distance unsealed, and head towards the Heidelberg shops. Turn left over a small bridge, walk a short distance to Banksia St, veering left, and past 'The Greenery' plant nursery. Take the first turn down under bridge, veer right and up again to Banksia Street (now on the South side). Turn right where another path enters, up a slight rise, and onto a path along very busy Banksia St. Turn right, and cross the bridge. On reaching another nursery just beyond the eastern end of the bridge, take the first path sharply right. Walk down to the river and turn right.

Enter Banksia Park after walking under the bridge and veer left. From here on, it is difficult to give precise instructions, as there are many possible paths to follow.

Walking on a sealed path, keep to the left and fairly close to the river until arriving at a toilet block.

Continue in the same direction along the road for a short distance. Cross a section of grass on the path and turn left. Walk around the dog playground, and veer right. Look for a gate on your left that will give you access to the Heide Galleries and Grounds. Walk into and around the Cottage Garden developed by Sunday Reid in the 1940s, then leave by the opposite gate and admire the folly. Turn left to walk through part of the Heide grounds. Among the many sculptures, is a set of cows constructed from galvanised iron. Veer left and exit Heide. After crossing the road, follow the path to the left (the toilets will now be on your right). Leave Banksia Park, following the path to take you back under the Banksia Rd bridge. Return to the cars, using the same route in reverse direction.

Coffee at [Four Leaves](#) (Greville Rd).

Friday, May 5 237 E Yarra River walk, Warrandyte

6¹/₂ kms 1¹/₂hrs Mel 23 C12

Revised October 2021.

Surface = 2, steepness = 2

Park and begin the walk from [Tarooma Reserve](#) in Everard Drive, Warrandyte. Walk up to Everard Drive, turning right up the hill. Take a short break at the top before returning to Tarooma Reserve. Walk through the reserve to the Yarra and follow the trail upstream to the bridge.

Return the same way.

Coffee at Warrandyte [Food for all seasons](#)

Wednesday, May 10 241 E Lower Eltham Park-Westerfolds Park, Eltham

7kms 2hrs Mel 21 H10/11

Amended April 2019

Surface = 1, steepness = 2, scenery***

Meet near the toilet block in [Lower Eltham Park](#).

Follow the path up the hill onto a boardwalk that curls around to the left. Turn left into Homestead Rd and follow this road until you turn right towards the river. Cross the bridge to the Main Yarra Trail (which runs beside Petty's Orchard) and immediately turn right along a bush track. Alternatively, walk up the hill and then follow the road to the right. Either way will take you to the carpark at the canoe ramp, adjacent to the Fitzimon's Lane bridge.

Continue under the bridge, entering Westerfolds Park. Just beyond the bridge, either continue along the main (concrete) path to the Observation platform, or go onto a bush track on your right (just beyond a Parks Victoria sign).

The bush track will take you beside the river (poles desirable if it's been wet), back to the concrete path, then back onto the dirt track to re-join the concrete path, then continue to the viewing platform for refreshments and admire the view. Return the way you have come.

Coffee at [Teapot Café](#)

Friday, May 12 172 E Darebin Creek, Bundoora Golf Course, Mt Cooper, Bundoora

7.8kms 1¾hrs Mel 19F3

Tony Stutterd

Surface = 2, steepness = 2

Commences from the [Visitors' Centre in Bundoora Park](#). Enter the park off Plenty Rd, via Fairway Dve (opp. Main Dve). After driving about 150m, turn right into River Redgum Dve. Follow the signs to the Visitors' Centre along the winding road, ignoring various roads coming in on the left and right. To begin the walk, leave the car park, initially retracing your route to the Visitors' Centre car park, but this time using the gravel path adjacent to River Redgum Dve. Near the Cooper's Settlement Heritage Village (about half way along, and on your right), veer half right across parkland to Fairway Drive. You will see a toilet block on your left as you start walking across the grass. Turn right along Fairway Dve until you reach a sign for Grasslands Way; how far you have to walk along to reach Grasslands Way will depend on the point at which you join Fairway Dve after walking from the Cooper's Settlement. Turn left into Grasslands Way. After wending its way through bush and grassland, the road becomes a concrete bike path at the point where there is a car park. Follow this for a further 450m. At the T

junction, turn right onto a concrete path that follows Darebin Creek (on your right) through to a road. Along this stretch, a paddock with grazing sheep is on the other side of the creek. At the T junction, you have reached Chenies Rd (not signposted at this point). Cross the road (with care), turn right, walk over the bridge, and immediately turn left onto the path adjacent to Darebin Creek. Follow this path for about 550m, with Darebin Creek now on your left. Just before reaching a bridge, the path divides, the lower section going under the bridge, and the upper leading to unsignposted Dunne St. Follow the latter.

Cross the bridge on Dunne St. If the grass is short, return to Chenies Rd by turning left down onto the east bank of Darebin Creek, and walking along the bank. This embankment skirts John Hall Reserve. If the grass is long, retrace your steps to Chenies Rd. Again, cross Chenies Rd, and again walk along the concrete Darebin Creek path. After about 500m, leave the concrete path to follow a rough path on a grassy bank of Darebin Creek on the left, rather than continue ahead away from the creek. In some places, there is an old stone path along this bank. The path can be rather indistinct, but by keeping the creek on your left you will pick it up at regular intervals. Throughout this section, the Bundoora Golf Course will be on your right. After about 1.5km, the ground starts to rise on your right. Leave the creek bank here, and commence the climb up Mt Cooper (no path)*, crossing Mt Cooper Scenic Dve on the way. After admiring the view, walk downhill along the road. This will take you back to the cars.
* If you don't want to walk up Mt Cooper, simply turn right when other walkers start the climb, and walk across the grass until you reach a road (Mt Cooper Drive)

Coffee at [Visitors' Centre in Bundoora Park](#)

Wednesday, May 17 114 E Karingal Yalloc, Eltham

7.4 kms 2hrs Mel 21 F5

Ian Burns, April 2017, amended August 2020.

Surface = 2, steepness 2, scenery**

This walk is an easier version & combination of 139 (Karingal Dve and Creek and Ryans Rd), and 183 (St Katherine's Church & Reserve).

Commences at [Meruka Park car park](#), just off Meruka Drive, Eltham. Go through a gap in the fence to the left of the Meruka Park sign, and head towards Karingal Dve, and a large fallen eucalypt. Look for a narrow bush track and take this to where it re-enters the other side of the park. Walk across to Gleneagle Way, crossing it and Nerreman Gateway. Turn right onto the path between Neremann Gateway (road) and the historic dam on the left.

After about 100m, veer left towards the creek on an informal path, and continue on this, with the creek and Karingal Drive on the left. After about 400m, use the narrow opening next to a gate to exit onto a road (Ramptons Rd). Cross over, and continue on the path with the creek (Karingal Yalloc) on the left. Initially gravel, the path quickly becomes an informal grassy way. Follow this for 600m to emerge onto Weidlich Road. Turn right, and use the footpath adjacent to Weidlich Rd to walk a little over 1km to Holy Trinity Primary School, which will be on the right. Cross road, and diverge onto greensward, and

follow a small watercourse. Cross a road (Glen Catherine Dve), and continue along the grassy easement until a divided road is reached (St Helena Rd). Between the school and this point is about 1km.

Turn left, and walk along the service road beside St Helena Rd to the traffic lights at Karingal Dve (about 1.5km). Turn left, and enter Blair Reserve car park. Walk through Blair Reserve to Weidlich Rd. Cross over to the path along the creek, and follow this track used on the forward journey back to Meruka Park. For the last section, you can use the footpath adjacent to Karingal Drive.

Coffee at [Oregon Xpress](#) (Weidlich Rd) or [Teapot Café](#) (Eltham Library).

Friday, May 19 **189 E Ruffey Creek Trail: Finns Reserve to Ruffey Lake, Templestowe**

7.5kms 2hrs Mel 33 B4

Revised March 2017

Surface = 1, steepness = 2

Combined Walk

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Commences at [Finns Reserve car park](#) at the end of Duncan St. This walk follows, as closely as possible, the course of Ruffey Creek, from where it flows into the Yarra River at Lower Templestowe back to Ruffey Lake Park in Doncaster. From the car park, walk past the playground towards the footbridge across the Yarra, but at the footbridge turn right along the path and then left down steps to a bridge crossing Ruffey Creek. Follow the sign to Ruffey Lake Park along the sealed path, keeping the creek on the right. At Parker St, cross the road at the bridge, and walk up Parker St to the right of the swimming centre. Take the first street on the right (McLachlan St) to Foote St. Cross Foote St to join Ruffey Creek Linear Park following the path along the creek until it ends at a bridge at Eumeralla St. Go up Eumeralla St until it ends at Montpelier Reserve. Immediately leave the made path and turn left downhill on an informal path to rejoin the bitumen track with the creek now on the left. Continue on, passing under Williamson's Rd. When the path divides at the bridge at King St, take the left fork to go under the bridge and continue straight ahead along a footpath completed in February 2014. Turn right at the lake and follow the path to The Boulevard. Immediately take the path that rises slightly. There are seats near the toilet block on the right. After the break, return to the path, and almost immediately turn left where 2 paths intersect. Walk down to a small bridge near the lake; cross this, and pick up the path used on the forward journey. Retrace steps to the cars. An option for a longer walk is to go around the lake. Retrace steps to the cars.

Coffee at [Melissa's](#), Vibrante or Carlucci's, Lower Templestowe

Saturday, May 20

Saturday Walk

Wednesday, May 24

5½ kms 1¾ hrs

Updated April 2017

Surface = 2, steepness = 2

226 E Watery Gully Rd, Wattle Glen

Mel 271 F5

The walk commences at the corner of [Kangaroo Ground/St Andrews Rd and Watery Gully Road](#)

Walk along the gravel path in Watery Gully Rd, crossing Flat Rock Rd to Thorns Rd. Walk down Thorns Rd to Valley Rd. Return the same way. Some hilly gradients.

Coffee at [Kangaroo Ground](#)

Friday, May 26 **231 E Mill Park Lakes** (near Quarry Hill) **Mill Park Lakes**

7.6km 2hrs Mel 183 C8

Surface =2, Steepness = 2

Carpooling at [Diamond Valley Sports Centre](#)

The walk commences at Hillview Reserve car park, 100 The Great Eastern Way, Mill Park Lakes. On leaving the carpark, cross the road, and walk along Darius Terrace. There will be parkland and water features on your left, and you will pass Lazar Grove and Xavier Way on your right. Cross the waterway and walk another 200m, perhaps noting a small shopping precinct on your left. On reaching The Lakes Boulevard, cross the road, and continue straight ahead on Armitage Way. Walk up the embankment to a grassy track. Turn right and follow the lower path that follows the eastern edge of the path with the houses on the right. Follow this track to Swamp Gum Gully car park. Follow the track northwards to Eagle Lookout for about 15 meters then take an indistinct track to the right, which takes you back to the fence line. Follow this along to a formal/gated exit at Highpoint Drive. Cross here and go down Joeys Run to the greenbelt/wetlands. Turn right and walk along the right hand (western) side of the lakes. Follow this greenbelt track, crossing several roads until you get to Jardier Terrace (bus stop sign). Cross this and now take the path on the eastern side of the creek. Continue along the track to Darius Terrace; take a left turn along Gabriel Terrace and then back on to Darius (heading east). This will take you to The Great Eastern Way and the cars

Wednesday, May 31 **310 E Yallambie-Viewbank Silos, Yallambie**

Helen Boak

6km 2hr Mel 20 K7

Surface =2, steepness =2

Park near the [Yallambie tennis courts](#) (access via Yallambie Rd and Binawee Ave).

Cross onto the Plenty River Trail and turn right, passing a soccer ground and the tennis courts to the Lower Plenty bridge (about 800 metres).

Walk under this and go up onto the Old Lower Plenty Road historic bridge. Turn right and walk along Old Lower Plenty Rd to Lower Plenty Rd. Turn left for a short distance, then turn left into Bannockburn Rd. Go to the end of this road, turn right down a slope with steps and cross a footbridge. Turn left onto a grassy area (no path) and walk across open grassy terrain to link up with a gravel path. Turn right onto this, and walk up to Hendersons Road.

Turn left here and walk up to the Banyule Road roundabout.

Cross to re-join the Plenty River Trail. Continue to the Viewbank silos or until you've been walking for up to an hour for the half-way break.

Retrace your steps to Hendersons Road and the Plenty River Trail.

Follow this downhill, crossing the Plenty and passing the Heidelberg Golf Club back to the historic bridge. Cross this and find the path on the right to take you back onto the Plenty River Trail.

Follow this back to the cars.

Coffee at Lower Plenty Shops

Friday, June 2 311 E Mill Park-Darebin Creek Circuit, Mill Park

6½ kms 1½ hrs Mel 9J1

Ian Burns June 2022

Surface = 2, steepness = 1

Walk begins near the Leisure Centre at [Mill Park Recreation Reserve](#) carpark in Morang Drive. The path starts here. Take this and walk westwards for about 250 metres, past the Northern District Softball Association. The path then bears northwards for about 250 metres. At that point you will be at a four-way junction – “take the 2nd exit” for 200 metres, towards the east. Keep on this path as it bends to the north. After about 500 metres you will arrive at a railway underpass

Continue for 300 metres, crossing McDonalds Rd. You will then be in the Meadow Glen Athletics Reserve.

Continue for another 300 metres to a T junction (Hendersons Rd drain) and turn left. Continue on this path (going west and south), crossing McDonalds Rd again.

You should arrive at Darebin Creek after about 2.7 kms.

Stay on the path and enter the W A Smith and Sycamore Reserves (all one park), keeping to left-hand paths wherever.

You will exit these after about 700 metres at Sycamore St, and walk north-easterly into Findon Reserve. After about a kilometre you will reach Childs Rd. Cross with care and turn right for about 200 metres. This will take you to Morang Drive. Turn left and return to the cars (about 600 metres).

Wednesday, June 7 174 E Edendale Farm to Diamond Street, Diamond Creek

8kms 2hrs Mel 22 A1

Surface = 1, steepness = 1

Combined Walk

Meet at the carpark at the end of [Gastons Rd, Eltham](#), next to Edendale Farm. Cross the road and follow the walking path past Edendale Farm through Eltham North Reserve, to Allandale Rd. Cross Allandale Rd next to the rail line, turn left and cross Diamond Creek, using the footpath on the bridge. Turn right into Diamond Creek Reserve and walk along the pathway for about 20 minutes to end at the corner of Chute and Diamond Streets in Diamond Creek opposite the Shell Service Station. There are toilets available here. Return along the same route.

Coffee at Edendale, [Tea Pot Café](#), Shillinglaw

Friday, June 9 305 E Suspension Bridge-Dry Creek, Greensborough

7kms 1¾ hrs Mel 20 K1

Ian Burns, December 2021

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery ****

Park at the [Greensborough Tennis Club](#) (near the Living & Learning Centre).

Walk northwards beside the Greensborough Park oval, through a gate and along a somewhat stony track. Bearing left up the hill, you will walk along an escarpment with attractive views across the Plenty River.

The track then descends to and traverses a soccer oval.

Continue on the concrete path in a southerly direction, passing soccer club rooms on the left. You will come to a junction of paths (the left goes over the bridge): go straight ahead, ignore the paths to the left and right. You will now have the Plenty River on your left.

Follow this path in a north-westerly direction, passing the mini waterfall, until it meets the Plenty River Trail.

Follow this for the rest of the outward walk, passing under the Greensborough By-pass. Cross the road at the roundabout and walk up the hill a short distance. On the left is the path back on to the PRT.

Turn onto this and walk to John Batman's alleged apple tree and the old Maroondah Aqueduct bridge.

For a shorter walk, turn back here.

Continue on until you see an old gate where the track begins to rise. This is where Dry Creek meets the Plenty, and is the halfway point.

Retrace your steps back to the cars, finally taking either the escarpment route at the soccer field or crossing the bridge, oval and suspension bridge to the tennis courts.

Wednesday, June 14 153 E Circumnavigation of Yarra Glen

[DISTANCE](#) Mel 274 K1/2

Surface = 1, steepness = 2

Carpooling at [ELT](#)

Start the walk from the [Yarra Glen IGA carpark](#) Walk along the Melba Highway to the Eltham-Yarra Glen Rd. then turn left here and head for Glenview Rd. Turn left into Glenview and follow this to King St., which will take you back to the Melba Highway. Cross the Highway here and then turn right and cross the Healesville-Yarra Glen Rd. and the old railway line. Take the disused road that leads into the Yarra Flats billabongs. Walk along here with the billabongs on your right and eventually (about three quarters of the way along) you will see a path into the billabongs. Follow this to return to the bridge. Cross the Healesville-Yarra Glen Rd. to Armstrong Grove and follow this back to the Melba Highway or go directly back down the Melba Highway from the roundabout.

Coffee at [Yarra Glen Café](#), Delicious, or Kangaroo Ground Store

Friday, June 16 212 E Koonung-Bushy Creek, Box Hill

9kms 2¼hrs Mel 47 F6

Tony Stutterd. Option added January 2018

Surface = 1, steepness = 1

This walk is somewhat exposed in nature.

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Combined Walk

Commences from the roundabout at [Dorking Rd and Wimmera St](#), Box Hill North. Proceed in a NW direction (towards the city) along Bushy Creek, initially parallel to and north of Wimmera St. Cross Station St (not sign-posted here), and proceed to Woodhouse Gv via the path through Memorial Park. Cross Woodhouse Gv, and look for the continuation of the trail diagonally to the right. Walk to Elgar Rd (again not sign-posted), cross the road, and walk to the junction of Belmore Rd and Elgar Rd. Enter Elgar Park here, and follow the path which runs alongside Elgar Rd for 350m. Turn left, and follow the path here called Koonung Creek Path, and which runs beside the Eastern Freeway. Sound barriers considerably reduce the noise from cars and trucks, making walking more pleasant than might otherwise be expected. Follow the path to Doncaster Rd (about 1.8km). Continue along the underpass to a small picnic area and toilets. To return to the cars, simply follow the route in reverse.

Coffee at [Middleborough Café](#) (Kerrimuir shops).

Saturday, June 17 Saturday Walk

Wednesday, June 21 290 E Linear Trail from Beasleys Nursery

5.8kms 1½ hrs Mel 34 F3

Vera Snelders, September 2019

Surface = 2, steepness = 1, scenery ****

This walk forms part of the Mullum Mullum Creek linear trail and, whilst it is fairly open, it is well signed and on flat, formed paths. The walk starts from alongside the children's playground at the rear of the parking area at Beasley's Nursery. Continue along this path, over the one lane bridge and cross the road at The Parkway. Pick up the trail on the other side of the road and walk until a river viewing platform is reached, where the Mullum Mullum Creek joins the Yarra. This is a good half way rest spot. Now, retrace your steps back to and across The Parkway. Once the BBQ area near the one lane bridge is reached you have the option to extend the walk by crossing the road here and walking straight ahead on a gravel path to a noticeboard indicating where the start of the Templestowe Hill Climb used to be (about 20 minutes return). Again, retrace your steps to the road and cross back over the road to pick up the trail once more back to the parking area at Beasleys.

Coffee at [Beasleys](#)

Friday, June 23 292 E Westerfolds Park Circuit, Lower Templestowe

5.8kms 2 hrs Mel 33 E3

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery ***

Poles advisable.

Meet at the [farther car park](#) off Porter Street, Lower Templestowe, beyond the toilet block. Look for a rough path in the far corner, on the right. Take this, walking uphill to the Manor House (1938). Skirt this to the right, taking the first path to the left. This goes down hill to an intersection with a water fountain. Take the left path and walk some way, past a toilet block and the Parks Victoria offices (where we have our meetings). This path goes down hill to a gate just before the Main Yarra Trail (toilets to the right). Here you can either turn left onto the concrete footpath or cross it to a bush track on the left that follows the Yarra. Proceed to the lookout on the right, which is the break point. Continue either on the concrete path or bush track to where these meet, about 600 metres. At this point you will see an informal path to the left, or across from the track and past a broken sign: take this, ignoring paths to the right and left. You will come to a formal track on the left – keep going to get to a small bridge, which you cross. Almost immediately you will see a track to the left: take this and walk back to a gate at Porter St. Turn left and then left again into Westerfolds and the cars.

Coffee at [Two Doors Café](#), in the car park on the corner of Anderson and James Streets.

Wednesday, June 28 126 E Five Bridges Across Darebin Creek, Ivanhoe

6.4kms 1¾ hrs Mel 31 D10

Options added May 2021

Surface = 2, steepness 2, scenery****

Carpooling at [Lower Eltham car park](#)

Commences from [Sparkes Reserve, Ivanhoe](#). Park near the corner of Heidelberg Rd and The Boulevard, either along the verge of The Boulevard, or in Turnpike Ct (there is space for about 6 cars in this court).

Walk the few metres back to Heidelberg Rd, and turn right. At a point where the sight-lines are good, cross to the other side (with care), and walk 250m along Heidelberg Rd. Look for a path that will take you to an underpass which runs beneath the railway line. Use this, walk up the ramp, then turn left into Salisbury Ave. When this road turns sharply right it becomes Rockbears Grove. Continue on this as it gradually rises to a house with the number 24. Turn left into Darebin Parklands Easement.

At the end of the easement, the path becomes Cobb and Co Wagon Track (dating from the 1870s) and descends over rough ground to 4 steps and a small concrete bridge. After crossing the bridge, there are 3 tracks: on the left along the creek, on the right also along the creek, and straight ahead. Follow the track straight ahead, which leads to a series of bluestone steps. Walk up the steps with care (they are slippery when wet). At the top of the steps, turn left, and follow the path as it continues straight, then back down to the creek. The path now goes under the Hurstbridge line railway bridge, crosses a second bridge over Darebin Creek, then via a board- walk under the bluestone Heidelberg Road bridge.

Almost immediately, an intersection of paths is reached, with the cars visible 50m on the left. Pause here for a drink.

Rather than turn left towards the cars, continue straight ahead on the Darebin Trail for a further 1.2km. A further 3 bridges are crossed, the first 2 of which are again over Darebin Creek, and the third over the Yarra River. Walk to the T junction with the Main Yarra Trail. Turn left here, walk 400m to Willow

Gve, then left again to the pavilion and toilets adjacent to Willsmere Chandler Park. Follow the earth path back to the Darebin Trail, turn right and retrace steps, again crossing 3 bridges, and passing Alphington Grammar grounds on the left. On reaching Sparkes Reserve, turn right to return to the cars.

Coffee at the café on the corner of Marshall St and Lower Heidelberg Rd

Friday, June 30 190* E Pound Bend circuit, Warrandyte State Park

5.5kms 1½ hrs Mel 23 A11

Revised January 2014

Surface = 2, steepness = 2, scenery****

Carpooling at [ELT](#)

Commences from car park on the right hand side in [Pound Bend Reserve](#), 200m from Everard Dve/ Pound Bend Rd turnoff. There are toilets located here. Leave the parking area, and with the toilets on your right, veer left across open grassland, looking for a narrow path that runs alongside the river. The river will be on your left. After 15-20 minutes of walking along this path, during which time you will cross small bridges and pass a house on a rise on your right, you reach a fence and an opening for what used to be a gate. Go through this opening, and into an open paddock. There are now 2 possibilities:

Option 1: (If wet) Walk straight ahead to a gate. Follow the track immediately ahead to the bitumen road. Turn left, and follow the bitumen past the Rangers' office (on the right), and onto a gravel road. Continue downhill onto a rough vehicular track on the right.

Option 2: (If dry) Turn hard left, and walk through grass and reeds towards the river to pick up a vehicle track. Continue with the river on your left with the track following a circular route. The track eventually leads up a slope to meet a rough vehicular track on the left. Turn left here.

Follow this vehicular track (which eventually becomes a grassy path) until it peters out at the end of the open river flat. Note that the vehicular track can be very muddy after rain. Retrace your steps to the end of this track, turn left, and head up to the State Park admin office.

Turn left between the toilets and plant nursery, passing the Rangers' office on the left. Walk along the path between buildings until a road is reached on the right. Look for a gate straight ahead which leads into bushland. Take this. Initially it heads uphill, then levels out. Follow this track through to an intersection of several sealed roads at the Pound Bend Park entrance, where you drove in on the way to the car park. Veer right, and look for a path that goes steeply downhill via a series of wooden steps. This will bring you to a viewing section on the left above the Pound Bend tunnel. Retrace a few steps to the path, and then exit into a large car park. Walk through this to the area near the toilets where you are parked.

Coffee at [Warrandyte Café](#) (opposite police station)